

House Children and Family Law Committee

January 18, 2022

Laura Montgomery

Exhibits

In chronological order:

1. October 19, 2018 – Hearing (Julie Introcaso) – Daughter
2. November 29, 2018 – Email from Julie Introcaso (Deposition Exhibit 19)
3. March 15, 2019 – Julie Introcaso Recusal order in *Campbell v. Partello*
4. June 3, 2019 – Hearing (Julie Introcaso and Kathleen Sternenberg) – Daughter
5. June 7, 2019 – *Ex Parte* Hearing (Julie Introcaso and Kathleen Sternenberg) – Daughter
6. July 23, 2019 – Hearing (Julie Introcaso and Kathleen Sternenberg) – Daughter
7. August 30, 2019 – *Ex Parte* Hearing (Julie Introcaso) – Son
8. April 20, 2020 – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Child Support
9. June 25, 2020 – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Son
10. August 31, 2020 – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Son
11. October 23, 2020 – New Hampshire Union Leader Article
12. February 8, 2021 – Excerpt from Deposition of Julie Introcaso re: Laura Montgomery
13. April 6, 2021 – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Son
14. June 21, 2021 – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Son
15. November 15, 2021 (10:00 am) – Hearing – Julie Introcaso Plea and Sentencing
16. November 15, 2021 (10:00 am) – Hearing (Bruce DalPra) – Son

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

In the Matter of)
STEPHEN LOUDERMILK,) Family Division Case No.
Petitioner,) 659-2015-DM-00185
and) Nashua, New Hampshire
LAURA MONTGOMERY,) October 19, 2018
Respondent.) 10:43 a.m.
_____)

HEARING ON SCHEDULING CONFERENCE
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE INTROCASO
JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Timothy Coughlin, Esq.
125 Main Street
Suite 20
New Market, NH 03857

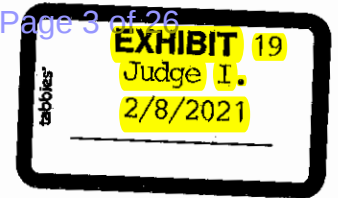
For the Respondent: Andrea Labonte, Esq.
4 Chenell Drive
Suite 102
Concord, NH 03301

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From: Hon. Julie Introcaso <JIntrocaso@courts.state.nh.us>

Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2018 3:34 PM

To: Timothy C. Coughlin <TCoughlin@nhtrialattorneys.com>; Andrew J. Piela <ajp@hamker.com>

Cc: Kathleen Sternenberg <kas@Sternenberglaw.com>

Subject: GAL Appointment

Counsel,

After calling several GALs (most of whom don't pick up the phone, Attorney Sternenberg and I spoke briefly about the case basics, particularly the need to work expeditiously on the matter given the holidays and the short time between appointment and NCE.

I need to state that having practiced law in Manchester for about 12 years prior to working for the Court beginning in 2000, Attorney Sternenberg and I became good friends and cooperative colleagues in the marital bar. She has an excellent reputation as a GAL in Manchester and rarely comes to Nashua. As I sit in Nashua each day, I don't see her often, although I still consider her a friend.

One of the reasons for that is my deep respect for her work ethic and professionalism. I think she will do a great job, she will do it with diligence, and I hope to assure you that I have before, and likely will again, disagree and argue with her about a variety of matters.

I don't believe I would have any problem looking at her recommendation objectively and, perhaps deciding a case differently from any recommendation she might make, should this case go to trial.

If you have any concerns about the appointment, let me know in the next 27 minutes if possible. Otherwise, I will head out, certain that you will hear from her and move forward in the near future.

Judge I.

PS – Absent an objection, a hard copy of the order attached will go out in tomorrow's mail along with a Notice of Decision

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
JUDICIAL BRANCH
NH CIRCUIT COURT**

9th Circuit - Family Division - Nashua
30 Spring Street, Suite 102
Nashua NH 03060

Telephone: 1-855-212-1234
TTY/TDD Relay: (800) 735-2964
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

NOTICE OF DECISION

FILE COPY

Case Name: **In the Matter of David Campbell and Robin Partello**
Case Number: **659-2018-DM-00702**

Enclosed please find a copy of the Court's Order dated March 15, 2019 relative to:

**Petitioner's Expedited Motion to Continue March 19, 2019 Status
Conference and Motion to Clarify Subject of Hearing - Granted**

Introcaso, J.

March 15, 2019

Sherry L. Bisson
Clerk of Court

(659304)

C: David Campbell; Robin Partello; Kathleen A. Sternenberg; Tracey G. Crie, ESQ

DAVID CAMPBELL
AND
ROBIN PARTELLO

659-2018-DM-702

On 3-15-19, the Petitioner filed a motion to continue a Status Conf. scheduled by this judge. The motion (#38) is GRANTED.

In filing the motion, the Petitioner inquired as to the purpose of the hearing. The undersigned judge scheduled the hearing to disclose her conflict with the Court-appointed GAL in the case.

Although this judge has made no substantive rulings in this matter, it has approved substantive orders issued by the marital master that had previously handled this litigation.

The marital master has been reassigned to another court location so numerous substantive motions were presented to this judge for review.

In doing so, this judge

pg 2.

has determined that she is unable to address these motions, particularly as some relate directly to the payment and performance of the GAL.

The GAL has been a long-standing friend of this judge; she has vacationed with her, discussed personal matters in depth (including financial issues) and the GAL is the godparent to one of this judge's children.

The Court does not believe this conflict, under the circumstances as stated above, is one which can be waived.

The Court hoped to put this matter on the record and set this matter for trial before another judge; however, even that may be seen as inappropriate given the conflict over the GAL specifically.

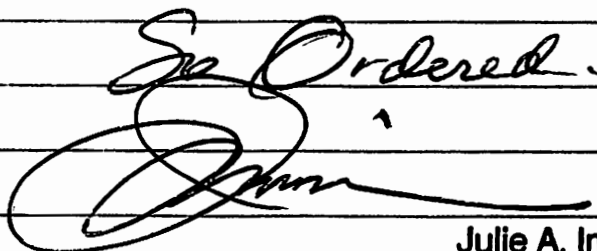
The wisest course for this judge, and in an attempt to

pg 3. provide the parties with the most unbiased and fair hearing, is to simply withdraw as the presiding justice in this matter with regret as to the delay this may cause to the parties.

ORDER:

1. Judge Julie Introcaso shall have no further involvement in this matter.
2. The Clerk shall expeditiously work with the parties to reassign this matter, resolve the pending motions, and schedule this matter for any further hearing.
3. No status conference will occur on March 19, 2019.

3/15/19

So Ordered.


Julie A. Introcaso

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
STEPHEN LOUDERMILK,) 659-2015-DM-00185
)
) Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) June 3, 2019
) 1:12 p.m.
and)
)
LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
) Respondent.)
)
)

HEARING ON PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE INTROCASO
JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Timothy Coughlin, Esq.
125 Main Street
Suite 20
New Market, NH 03857

For the Respondent: Andrew Piela, Esq.
20 Trafalgar Square
Suite 505
Nashua, NH 03302

Also Present: Kathleen Sternenberg, Esq.
Guardian Ad Litem

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF)
) Family Division Case No.
 STEPHEN LOUDERMILK,) 659-2015-DM-00185
)
 Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) June 7, 2019
 and) 3:05 p.m.
)
 LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
 Respondent.)

HEARING ON EX PARTE HEARING
 BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE INTROCASO
 JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Timothy Coughlin, Esq.
 COUGHLIN LAW OFFICES, LLC
 125 Main Street
 Suite 20
 Newmarket, NH 03857

For the Respondent: Andrew J. Piela, Esq.
 HAMBLETT & KERRIGAN
 20 Trafalgar Square
 Suite 505
 Nashua, NH 03063

Also Present: Kathleen Sternenber
 Guardian Ad Litem

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
STEPHEN LOUDERMILK,) 659-2015-DM-00185
)
) Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) July 23, 2019
) 9:26 a.m.
and)
)
LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
) Respondent.)
)
)

HEARING ON MOTION TO MODIFY
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE A. INTROCASO
JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

Pro Se Petitioner: Stephen Loudermilk
82 Main Stream Road
Fairfield, ME 04937

For the Respondent: Andrew Piela, Esq.
20 Trafalgar Square
Suite 505
Nashua, NH 03302

Also Present: Kathleen Sternenberg
Guardian Ad Litem

Audio Operator: Electronically Recorded
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
) Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) August 30, 2019
 and) 11:53 a.m.
)
LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
) Respondent.)
)

HEARING ON EX PARTE MOTION
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE A. INTROCASO
JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Jane M. Schirch, Esq.
SHANELARIS & SCHIRCH, PLLC
35 East Pearl Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
(Address Unknown)

Audio Operator: Electronically Recorded
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
STEPHEN LOUDERMILK,) 659-2015-DM-00185
)
) Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) April 20, 2020
) 9:45 a.m.
and)
)
LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
) Respondent.)
)
)

HEARING ON CHILD SUPPORT
BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA
MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES (All present by video or telephone):

For the Petitioner: Timothy C. Coughlin, Esq.
COUGHLIN LAW OFFICES
125 Main Street
Suite 20
Newmarket, NH 03857

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
195 McGregor Street
Unit 202
Manchester, NH 03102

Audio Operator: Electronically Recorded
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
 CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
 Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) June 25, 2020
 and) 11:39 a.m.
)
 LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
 Respondent.)
 _____)

HEARING ON STATUS CONFERENCE
 BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA
 MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES (All present by video or telephone):

For the Petitioner: Jane Schirch, Esq.
 SHANELARIS & SCHIRCH, PLLC
 35 East Pearl Street
 Nashua, NH 03060

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
 195 McGregor Street
 Unit 202
 Manchester, NH 03102

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF)
CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) Family Division Case No.
) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) August 31, 2020
and) 9:23 a.m.
)
LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
Respondent.)
_____)

FINAL HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA
MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Jane Schirch, Esq.
SHANELARIS & SCHIRCH PLLC
35 East Pearl Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
195 McGregor Street
Unit 202
Manchester, NH 03102

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Salvation Army

accepting applications for Christmas assistance

Staff Report

The Salvation Army is considering applications for its Christmas assistance program in Manchester through Dec. 3.

The 121 Cedar St. office will be open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday to take applications. It will also be open 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday evenings on Oct. 22 and 29, Nov. 5 and 12 and Dec. 3. Applicants must be from Manchester, Bedford or Litchfield.

No children will be allowed in the building on these dates.

Applicants need to bring a valid photo ID, proof of address (such as a bill or current mail), identification of each child (such as birth certificate, or health

commanding officer/pastor, in a statement. "This year we have added all of the COVID guidelines supplied by the CDC and The Salvation Army into our

Christmas Assistance Application Process. Please recognize that with these added protocols it will take a little time to bring you through the process.

The Salvation Army's Christmas Toy Shop, when parents come to pick up toys for their children, will take place at the Double-Tree by Hilton Hotel, 700 Elm St., on Dec. 20 and 21.

A limited number of clients will be allowed in the building. Children will not be allowed. Masks are required to enter the building, and social distancing will be required.

Nashua judge under ethics, criminal investigation

Investigation includes possible charges of falsifying physical evidence and tampering with public records.

By Mark Hayward
New Hampshire Union Leader

CONCORD — A Circuit Court judge in Nashua is under criminal investigation, apparently to cover up what had started as a minor mistake but grew to her whitening out court records to hide the mistake, according to documents accusing her of wrongdoing.

New Hampshire Attorney General Gordon MacDonald announced on Thursday that he has opened an investigation into criminal activity on the part of Judge Julie A. Introcaso.

The investigation includes possible charges of falsifying physical evidence and tampering with public records, MacDonald said in a statement.

The announcement follows a decision last week by the state Judicial Conduct Committee to accuse Introcaso of eight violations of the code of judicial conduct. The case against Introcaso is spelled out in a 13-page Formal Statement of charges issued against her.

According to the statement, the JCC started investigating Introcaso in September 2019, when it received a complaint from Robin Partello, who was involved in a parenting case. As a judge, Introcaso was merely signing off on recommendations made by family court masters. Her initial mistake was to sign off on a rec-

ommendation that a friend of hers, lawyer Kathleen Sternenberg, be appointed as a guardian ad litem in Partello's case. Introcaso said she signed the recommendation without reading it.

"There simply isn't enough time (to) read every order coming out of Nashua Family Division in detail," she wrote in her explanation to the JCC.

But as the case progressed, Introcaso began issuing decisions that went against Partello and favored Sternenberg. She authorized payments beyond the \$350 cap, and she ordered Partello to pay in cash or check, rather than Apple pay.

Eventually, Introcaso stepped off the case, citing the conflict and her longstanding, close friendship with Sternenberg. After the JCC asked Introcaso to respond to Partello's

complaint, she had the file delivered into her office and — according to allegations from the JCC — whitened out her hand-written orders in the court file.

Court clerks and staff told the JCC that Introcaso queried staff to ask if they had whitened out the document, even asking if they did so to protect her. She even checked the register to see who had access to the file. But she never reported the white outs to her superiors.

"The facts set forth establish compelling circumstantial evidence that Judge Introcaso whitened out the Apple Pay Order and Fee Cap Order some time between January 6 and January 9, 2020," the JCC wrote. "At the time, she knew there was an ongoing investigation by the Committee with respect to her rulings on this order."

In the Matter Of:

RE HONORABLE JULIE A. INTROCASO

HONORABLE JULIE A. INTROCASO

February 08, 2021

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<p>1 EXHIBITS FOR IDENTIFICATION: (Cont.)</p> <p>2 Number Page</p> <p>3 Exhibit 22 December 2019 Calendar 6</p> <p>4 Exhibit 23 January 2020 Calendar 6</p> <p>5 (The original exhibits were retained by</p> <p>6 Mr. Waystack.)</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1 did you go right to the 9th Circuit? Was that your</p> <p>2 first posting, so to speak?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And what was it that you were initially</p> <p>5 assigned to do at the 9th Circuit?</p> <p>6 A. I was assigned to the family division in</p> <p>7 both Manchester and Nashua, both in the 9th Circuit.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 A. And I was working between the two for a</p> <p>10 period of time.</p> <p>11 Q. Was there -- I know that other judges,</p> <p>12 from time to time -- and this may be more a superior</p> <p>13 court matter. But judges, from time to time, would</p> <p>14 do a process when they began -- of shadowing another</p> <p>15 judge. Did you have such a process?</p> <p>16 A. I did.</p> <p>17 Q. And whom did you shadow?</p> <p>18 A. I know I spent a day with Judge Garner. I</p> <p>19 know I spent a day with -- I apologize -- the judge</p> <p>20 who was in Carroll County. He sat in Carroll County</p> <p>21 up in Laconia and he's since retired.</p> <p>22 Q. Is that Judge Patten maybe?</p> <p>23 A. No. It was not Judge Patten. I know</p>
<p>6</p> <p>1 PROCEEDINGS</p> <p>2 (Judge Introcaso Exhibit Nos. 1 through 23</p> <p>3 were premarked by Mr. Waystack for</p> <p>4 identification.)</p> <p>5 HONORABLE JULIE A. INTROCASO,</p> <p>6 having been first duly sworn by the reporter, under</p> <p>7 RSA 310-A:181, Limited Notarial Function, was</p> <p>8 deposed and testified as follows:</p> <p>9 EXAMINATION</p> <p>10 BY MR. WAYSTACK:</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. Good afternoon, Judge Introcaso.</p> <p>12 A. Good afternoon.</p> <p>13 Q. As you know, my name is Philip Waystack.</p> <p>14 And in this matter, I am representing the Judicial</p> <p>15 Conduct Committee.</p> <p>16 I don't know all of your general details;</p> <p>17 so let me get a few of them. Do I understand you</p> <p>18 began serving on the bench in the year 2012?</p> <p>19 A. That's correct.</p> <p>20 Q. And whenabouts was that, Judge Introcaso?</p> <p>21 A. September. I think my first day actually</p> <p>22 on the bench was around September 18.</p> <p>23 Q. And when you began your judicial career,</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1 Judge Patten. I apologize.</p> <p>2 Q. That's okay. You don't have to apologize.</p> <p>3 A. Shadowed him.</p> <p>4 Q. Judge Pam Albee, is that the one? No?</p> <p>5 A. No, no. Not Pam Albee. It's a gentleman.</p> <p>6 Q. It's a gentleman?</p> <p>7 A. He sat in Laconia. I apologize, mostly to</p> <p>8 him. I don't recall his name. But he's retired</p> <p>9 within the last year or two.</p> <p>10 Q. Yeah.</p> <p>11 A. I believe I spent an afternoon or so</p> <p>12 perhaps with attorney -- sorry -- Judge Spath. And</p> <p>13 I think that's about it. I really didn't do much</p> <p>14 shadowing.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 A. I had a discussion with Judge Kelly at the</p> <p>17 time, which was within those days that I was, you</p> <p>18 know, shadowing, so to speak.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. So for a few days with a few</p> <p>20 judges, but not any kind of formal shadowing</p> <p>21 program?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. So let's talk about you for a bit.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">45</p> <p>1 to do that.</p> <p>2 Q. As you sit here today, do you think</p> <p>3 Ms. Partello had some right to be notified that the</p> <p>4 person who a judge has appointed to be her guardian</p> <p>5 was on your conflicts list?</p> <p>6 A. Again, at this point in the case, no.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. Turn to the next page, please.</p> <p>8 Look at paragraph 4, Judge, which is halfway down</p> <p>9 the page. It says here "The court sets the maximum</p> <p>10 fee in this case of \$3,500." Now, that's for the</p> <p>11 guardian's fee; is that right?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. I mean, it's been many years since I have</p> <p>14 done marital work, but I always thought it was 1,000</p> <p>15 or 1,500. \$3,500 struck me as being a relatively</p> <p>16 significant amount for the guardian's fee. I guess</p> <p>17 that's the cap, so to speak.</p> <p>18 A. Initially.</p> <p>19 MR. DELANEY: Objection to the form.</p> <p>20 You may answer the question.</p> <p>21 THE WITNESS: Okay.</p> <p>22 A. That would be the initial cap that would</p> <p>23 be set by Master DalPra, yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">47</p> <p>1 got that same language, hasn't it? Let me just read</p> <p>2 it once. "So ordered: I hereby certify that I have</p> <p>3 read the recommendations and agree that, to the</p> <p>4 extent the marital master/judicial referee/hearing</p> <p>5 officer has made factual findings, he/she has</p> <p>6 applied the correct legal standard to the facts</p> <p>7 determined by the marital master/judicial referee/</p> <p>8 hearing officer."</p> <p>9 Did I read that correctly?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. So that part on this document in Exhibit 2</p> <p>12 is part of a form; correct?</p> <p>13 A. Yeah. It's -- it's in every form that</p> <p>14 either a master or referee can sign.</p> <p>15 Q. And as you sit here today, you didn't --</p> <p>16 you did not read the entire document? You didn't</p> <p>17 read the entire interim order? You didn't read the</p> <p>18 entire order appointing the GAL? Is that your</p> <p>19 testimony?</p> <p>20 A. I did not read them word for word, no.</p> <p>21 Q. Is it also your testimony that you were</p> <p>22 not aware that Kathleen Sternenberg, a person on</p> <p>23 your conflicts list, was being appointed GAL and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>1 Q. (By Mr. Waystack) Did you think that that</p> <p>2 was pretty significant, \$3,500?</p> <p>3 A. Again, I honestly don't believe that I</p> <p>4 read through this entire form. I -- I -- there are</p> <p>5 a number of court forms that, as a matter of course,</p> <p>6 I do not read the details of things, like the money</p> <p>7 issues.</p> <p>8 Q. Whether you read it or not, I am asking</p> <p>9 you now. Do you think that \$3,500 in the initial</p> <p>10 appointment is a relatively high figure for a</p> <p>11 guardian to receive?</p> <p>12 A. It is unusually high, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>14 Okay. Now, if you turn to the final</p> <p>15 page -- second-to-the-last page of this exhibit,</p> <p>16 this is the signature page; correct?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And as with the interim order,</p> <p>19 Master DalPra signs. And then you, as judge, also</p> <p>20 sign?</p> <p>21 A. That's right.</p> <p>22 Q. And the part that I read to you before</p> <p>23 that I thought was a form, apparently wrongly, it's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">48</p> <p>1 that she was receiving a high initial cap of \$3,500?</p> <p>2 A. I had no idea.</p> <p>3 Q. In retrospect, if you had read that, would</p> <p>4 you have taken any other steps?</p> <p>5 A. I likely would have given the file back to</p> <p>6 whomever presented it to me and said, "Why don't you</p> <p>7 have any other judge sign this?" as has been done in</p> <p>8 the case in other places, I notice, but -- and, like</p> <p>9 I said, it's unusual because Master DalPra</p> <p>10 oftentimes will come in for cosignatures. We live</p> <p>11 right next door in the courthouse. But when he</p> <p>12 knows it's Kay Sternenberg or Jane-Holly Weintraub,</p> <p>13 he will go, "Oh," and he will take it to someone</p> <p>14 else. He knows my conflicts.</p> <p>15 Q. All right. So this document we're talking</p> <p>16 about was in late October of 2018?</p> <p>17 A. Correct.</p> <p>18 Q. Would you please turn to Exhibit 3. Take</p> <p>19 a moment and just look that over, if you would.</p> <p>20 MR. WAYSTACK: Michael, did you want to</p> <p>21 make an objection about this? We discussed</p> <p>22 this beforehand.</p> <p>23 MR. DELANEY: Thank you, Attorney</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">49</p> <p>1 Waystack. My understanding is that Exhibit 3 2 relates to a different case than the Partello 3 case involving an order on the appointment of 4 guardian ad litem related to Guardian ad Litem 5 Kay Sternenberg. 6 I also understand that Judge King has 7 referred this matter to the Judicial Conduct 8 Committee, and I am not aware of the case yet 9 having been docketed as a complaint or 10 scheduled for any form of inquiry or 11 investigation. 12 Judge Introcaso has obligations of 13 confidentiality related to that referral by 14 Judge King. I want to ensure that she does not 15 take any steps today that could be deemed 16 inconsistent with her obligations under the 17 judicial conduct rules. 18 I am not entirely sure if committee 19 counsel of the JCC has a right to inquire about 20 this before a majority of the JCC takes a vote 21 to determine whether it should be docketed as a 22 complaint. 23 With that being said, I will register an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">51</p> <p>1 Q. Let me ask you. This -- if you look at 2 the -- let's go to the end of this. The third 3 page -- it's a four-page exhibit, Exhibit 3. 4 Just for timeline here, so it looks like 5 you signed this on November 29, 2018. 6 A. That's right. 7 Q. Do you see that? Okay. 8 So let me ask you this, now that I have 9 given you the time frame: Do you have any 10 recollection about this case at all, Loudermilk and 11 Laura Montgomery? 12 A. I do. 13 Q. You do? Okay. 14 And this was a case that involved -- it 15 needed a guardian ad litem because there was a 16 parenting issue here; correct? 17 A. Correct. 18 Q. And this was not a case where Master 19 DalPra had recommended this. This is a case, it 20 looks like, you signed on your own. 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Fair enough? Okay. 23 And in this case, again, page 1 of</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">50</p> <p>1 objection to the line of inquiry. I will allow 2 Judge Introcaso to answer questions regarding 3 prior cases, subject to that objection. And I 4 would ask for a continuing objection, for the 5 purposes of this deposition, for all inquiries 6 related to prior cases other than the Partello 7 case. 8 MR. WAYSTACK: Okay. Let me just respond 9 briefly. There will be about six or seven 10 other of these appointments I will be talking 11 about. I agree, Attorney Delaney, you can have 12 a continuing objection for the reasons stated. 13 I am not going to eat up a lot of the time with 14 a response to your objection other than to say 15 this matter has been brought before the 16 Judicial Conduct Committee. I don't have any 17 view of there being new charges, but it relates 18 to some of the statements in this case, in the 19 Partello case. 20 Q. (By Mr. Waystack) So having said all that, 21 did you have a chance to look at Exhibit 3, Judge 22 Introcaso? 23 A. Yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">52</p> <p>1 Exhibit 3, paragraph 2, who's being appointed? 2 A. Kathleen Sternenberg. 3 Q. Okay. And do you remember at the time if 4 Mr. Loudermilk and Ms. Montgomery were represented 5 by counsel? 6 A. They were both represented. 7 Q. Okay. And was this as a result of an 8 actual hearing in a courtroom, Judge? 9 A. There was a hearing in a courtroom, that I 10 recall. Whether this order was delivered to the 11 parties in the courtroom or whether it was mailed 12 out subsequently to that hearing, I couldn't tell 13 you. But it was subsequent to a hearing. 14 Q. Okay. And I am going to go back to what 15 you said in your email to Judge King. To your 16 knowledge, did the parties -- or, rather, did 17 counsel for the parties tell you they wanted 18 Kathleen Sternenberg appointed as GAL? 19 A. They did. They had come to an agreement 20 that she would be the guardian in the case. 21 Q. Do you have any different recollection of 22 that, Judge Introcaso? 23 MR. DELANEY: Objection to the form.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">53</p> <p>1 You may answer.</p> <p>2 MR. WAYSTACK: I will withdraw the</p> <p>3 question. I will withdraw the question.</p> <p>4 Q. (By Mr. Waystack) Are you reasonably sure</p> <p>5 what you just said to me, Judge Introcaso, that is,</p> <p>6 that it was the parties who decided that they wanted</p> <p>7 Kathleen Sternenberg?</p> <p>8 A. I am reasonably sure that these two</p> <p>9 attorneys had spoken with one another and agreed to</p> <p>10 have her appointed to the case. And we had a</p> <p>11 discussion -- whether or not it was on the record, I</p> <p>12 recall it very clearly -- with Attorney Piela and</p> <p>13 Attorney Coughlin and us talking about, "Oh, you</p> <p>14 have got Attorney Sternenberg here today. Well,</p> <p>15 then we have some things to talk about."</p> <p>16 And when we -- I disclosed my conflict,</p> <p>17 they were both, "Fine. Fine. No. We're okay with</p> <p>18 that."</p> <p>19 I don't have an immediate recollection of</p> <p>20 any language. I am just trying to reflect the tenor</p> <p>21 of the meeting with counsel. That was in the</p> <p>22 courtroom.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. From time to time, it appears to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 Q. (By Mr. Waystack) I am going to give you a</p> <p>2 moment to read that, Judge, Exhibit 19.</p> <p>3 A. Okay. Thank you. I was going to say this</p> <p>4 actually says "Exhibit 19."</p> <p>5 (Witness peruses document.) Okay.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. So this appears to be an email sent</p> <p>7 from you on the same date you signed the orders</p> <p>8 appointing Kathleen Sternenberg as the guardian ad</p> <p>9 litem in the Loudermilk case.</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. And it's sent from you to Attorney Timothy</p> <p>12 Coughlin and Attorney Andrew Piela?</p> <p>13 A. Right.</p> <p>14 Q. And it's copied to Kathleen Sternenberg.</p> <p>15 Did I say that right?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. In the first paragraph, it seems to</p> <p>18 suggest that it was you, Judge, who called several</p> <p>19 guardians ad litem. And you make the comment "most</p> <p>20 of whom don't pick up the phone." And then you</p> <p>21 spoke with Attorney Sternenberg, and you talked</p> <p>22 briefly about the facts in the case. That's what</p> <p>23 your email says, isn't it?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 me, in the course of my investigation, that you</p> <p>2 would -- as a judge, you would have direct email</p> <p>3 contact with the attorneys in the case; is that</p> <p>4 right?</p> <p>5 A. Only if it's cc'd to the other side. But,</p> <p>6 yes, I allowed contact with counsel via email.</p> <p>7 Q. So in certain cases, counsel could contact</p> <p>8 you directly by email rather than go through the</p> <p>9 court system?</p> <p>10 A. Yes, under certain circumstances.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. Do you have a recollection of any</p> <p>12 such email contact in this case?</p> <p>13 A. I remember the courtroom hearing. I don't</p> <p>14 specifically recall if I communicated with counsel</p> <p>15 prior to or subsequent to that hearing via email.</p> <p>16 But both Attorney Coughlin and Attorney Piela would</p> <p>17 have been permitted to do that if they needed to.</p> <p>18 MR. WAYSTACK: Okay. Michael, would you</p> <p>19 please hand the witness Exhibit 19 now.</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. I am just going</p> <p>21 to throw away a piece of waste here.</p> <p>22 MR. WAYSTACK: Go ahead.</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: Thanks.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 A. Yes. And I recall this. I now recall</p> <p>2 this. The attorneys could not agree on a guardian.</p> <p>3 We had a hearing. And, you know, I said, "If you</p> <p>4 guys can't agree on someone, then the court will</p> <p>5 appoint somebody."</p> <p>6 Q. Right. And the someone you appointed was</p> <p>7 Kathleen Sternenberg?</p> <p>8 A. Was Kay, right.</p> <p>9 Q. Again, you make some reference to the fact</p> <p>10 that you worked with her for a while in Manchester</p> <p>11 before going to court, but -- before working for the</p> <p>12 court. But then you go back and you say -- you sort</p> <p>13 of explain it in the second-to-the-last paragraph.</p> <p>14 "I don't believe I would have any problem looking at</p> <p>15 her recommendation."</p> <p>16 And what I am concerned about is the last</p> <p>17 paragraph that says, "If you have any concerns about</p> <p>18 the appointment, let me know in the next 27 minutes,</p> <p>19 if possible. Otherwise, I will head out, certain</p> <p>20 you will hear from her and move forward in the near</p> <p>21 future." In other words, "Get back to me in</p> <p>22 27 minutes or Kathleen Sternenberg is appointed in</p> <p>23 this case." Isn't that what this says, Judge?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">57</p> <p>1 A. No. I don't agree with that.</p> <p>2 Q. Why not?</p> <p>3 A. At the end, I also say, "PS: Absent an</p> <p>4 objection, a hard copy of the order will go out in</p> <p>5 tomorrow's mail along with a notice of decision."</p> <p>6 I was trying to -- I believe the</p> <p>7 "27 minutes" has to do with the fact it was 3:34 and</p> <p>8 they wouldn't be able to get back to me that day and</p> <p>9 that I would hear from her if she was willing to</p> <p>10 take it. I would hear from them. I am just trying</p> <p>11 to put together, "Basically, can we all get on the</p> <p>12 page who the guardian is going to be?" And, you</p> <p>13 know, I -- frankly, "Let me know in the next</p> <p>14 27 minutes," unfortunately, was intended lightly.</p> <p>15 It was not intended as pressure.</p> <p>16 Q. Well, let's just look at the facts. So we</p> <p>17 just talked about Exhibit 3. And Exhibit 3 is the</p> <p>18 actual appointment that you signed on the 29th.</p> <p>19 That's the day you sent the email.</p> <p>20 A. Correct.</p> <p>21 Q. So it looks to me, by the end of the</p> <p>22 business day, that is, November 29, '18, you went</p> <p>23 ahead and appointed Kathleen Sternenberg. And you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">59</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. To be clear, this was not an email</p> <p>2 to you. This is an email you sent Judge Introcaso,</p> <p>3 isn't it?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, because the hearing was left on a</p> <p>5 note of, "We can't agree on someone. Judge, we will</p> <p>6 give you the authority to pick who you think would</p> <p>7 be appropriate in this case." And under the time</p> <p>8 constraints, the appropriate person was a person who</p> <p>9 I could get in touch with. There aren't that many</p> <p>10 guardians available. And she was -- she was</p> <p>11 available. I thought she would do good in the case,</p> <p>12 do a nice job. I told them that I had something of</p> <p>13 a conflict and, if they wanted to let me know, they</p> <p>14 would object.</p> <p>15 Q. Do you think it's your job as a judge to</p> <p>16 call guardians for appointment in cases?</p> <p>17 A. Yes, I do.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you do that regularly?</p> <p>19 A. Yes. I was also regularly called as a</p> <p>20 guardian by judges to do specific cases.</p> <p>21 Q. And so your recollection is that the</p> <p>22 attorneys in this case asked you to find the</p> <p>23 guardian? That's your testimony under oath?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">58</p> <p>1 gave -- and I realize it's 3:34 you sent the email.</p> <p>2 I know that the court closes at 4:00. My read is,</p> <p>3 "You have got 27 minutes to object. And if you</p> <p>4 don't, I am going to" -- "I am going to appoint</p> <p>5 her."</p> <p>6 Now, maybe they sent a written objection</p> <p>7 later, but isn't that the way this happened, Judge</p> <p>8 Introcaso?</p> <p>9 MR. DELANEY: Objection to the form. The</p> <p>10 question has been asked and answered.</p> <p>11 You may answer the question.</p> <p>12 A. No. I don't -- I don't think that that's</p> <p>13 how it went. I mean, we had had an earlier hearing</p> <p>14 where we talked about guardians. They had given me</p> <p>15 the authority to select a guardian. I don't recall</p> <p>16 if I specifically mentioned Kay or not. But I think</p> <p>17 this email, to me, reads like I am trying to</p> <p>18 document what happened in terms of the guardian.</p> <p>19 Like I said, I just -- I distinctly</p> <p>20 remember Attorney Coughlin, Attorney Piela, and I</p> <p>21 talking about the issue of the guardian and my</p> <p>22 initial recollection being they were comfortable</p> <p>23 with me picking a guardian, regardless.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">60</p> <p>1 A. In essence, it's a default position. If</p> <p>2 the two parties can't come up with lists that they</p> <p>3 can agree on one side or the other -- or one person</p> <p>4 or the other, by default, then, we kind of let the</p> <p>5 judge find somebody or have the judge try to find</p> <p>6 someone.</p> <p>7 It's my practice to normally let people</p> <p>8 submit three names, each of them submit three names.</p> <p>9 If they have got someone in common, great. If they</p> <p>10 don't and we're finishing up a structuring</p> <p>11 conference, they sort of leave it in my hands. And,</p> <p>12 frankly, 75 percent of that time I leave it to the</p> <p>13 staff, who often appoint guardians to do it.</p> <p>14 Q. Regardless of the process, Exhibit 19</p> <p>15 seems to suggest that what you told Judge King, that</p> <p>16 you only appoint the guardian when both parties</p> <p>17 agree, that is not accurate in terms of what</p> <p>18 Exhibit 19 says, is it?</p> <p>19 A. No. Not technically, no.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. Let's go to Exhibit 4, please.</p> <p>21 Now, what is Exhibit 4. Is it another</p> <p>22 order on the appointment of a guardian ad litem?</p> <p>23 A. It is.</p>

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
 CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
 Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) April 6, 2021
 and) 9:17 a.m.
)
 LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
 Respondent.)
 _____)

MOTION HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA

MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES (All present by video or telephone):

For the Petitioner: Jane Schirch, Esq.
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 35 East Pearl Street
 Nashua, NH 03060

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
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 Manchester, NH 03102

Audio Operator: Electronically Recorded
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Family Division Case No.
 CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
 Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) June 21, 2021
 and) 2:37 p.m.
)
 LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
 Respondent.)
 _____)

EX PARTE HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA

MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES (All present by video or telephone):

For the Petitioner: Jane Schirch, Esq.
 SHANELARIS & SCHIRCH, PLLC
 35 East Pearl Street
 Nashua, NH 03060

Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT SOUTH

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,)
) Superior Court Case No.
 Plaintiff,) 226-2021-CR-00126
)
 vs.) Nashua, New Hampshire
) November 15, 2021
 JULIE A. INTROCASO,) 10:04 a.m.
)
 Defendant.)
 _____)

HEARING ON PLEA AND SENTENCING
BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHARLES S. TEMPLE
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff: Geoffrey W.R. Ward, Esq.
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

9TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION - NASHUA

IN THE MATTER OF)
) Family Division Case No.
 CHRISTOPHER MORRELL,) 659-2019-DM-00383
)
) Petitioner,) Nashua, New Hampshire
) November 15, 2021
) 10:17 a.m.
) and)
)
 LAURA MONTGOMERY,)
)
) Respondent.)
)

HEARING ON PETITION TO BRING FORWARD
 BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE DALPRA
 MARITAL MASTER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

APPEARANCES:

For the Petitioner: Jane Schirch, Esq.
 SHANELARIS & SCHIRCH, PLLC
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Pro Se Respondent: Laura Montgomery
 (Address Unknown)

Audio Operator: Electronically Recorded
 Not monitored

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